



FIRE HAZARD REDUCTION PROGRAM

«NAME1» «NAME2»

«MAIL_ADDR»

«CTY_STA» «ZIP»

Date Mailed	Assessors Parcel #	Property Location
March 18, 2022	«APN»	«SITEADDR»

Dear City of Ventura Property Owner,

Despite heavy rainfall in the final three months of 2021, our area remains critically dry due to long-term drought conditions. One of the best defenses to protect against wildfire is to clear flammable grass, trees, and shrubs away from structures and create what's known as a "defensible space" around properties.

The goal of the Ventura Fire Department's Fire Hazard Reduction Program, or "FHRP," is to protect life and property by removing flammable brush, reducing vegetation density, and creating adequate defensible spacing. This reduction increases firefighter and public safety, as well as improves the Department's ability to protect your property in the event of a fire.

Your property has been identified as part of FHRP, which requires completion of 100 feet of vegetation clearance from structures. In accordance with the City of Ventura's Fire Code, property owners whose properties are in vulnerable fire areas, are required to perform fire hazard reduction brush clearance by **May 18, 2022**. A copy of Ventura's Fire Hazard Reduction Program Guidelines is attached with specific requirements.

Fire inspections are billable at \$38.97 for the first required annual inspection, including associated fees. Non-compliant property owners are subject to additional inspections and can be cited for subsequent fees. Fire Recovery USA, a third-party service, is responsible for administering all defensible space billing on behalf of the Ventura Fire Department.

As part of your personal Wildfire Action Plan, please register to receive VC Alert emergency notifications at www.VCAAlert.org and download a "Ready, Set, Go!" plan at www.VenturaCityFire.com.

For questions about FHRP billing or property clearance requirements, contact the City's Fire Prevention Division at fhrp@cityofventura.ca.gov or (805) 658-4717. For more information about FHRP, visit www.CityofVentura.ca.gov/FHRP.

Thank you for partnering with Ventura City Fire to keep our community protected and prepared.



Ver en español. Escanee aquí para ver la información y los requisitos del Programa de Reducción de Riesgos de Incendio en español.



Fire Hazard Reduction Program Guidelines

Zone 1: Within 30 feet of structures

- ✓ **Chimney & Roof.** Remove portions of any tree or combustible material that extends within 10 feet of a chimney or 3 feet of a roof.
- ✓ **Leaves/clutter.** Remove leaves, needles or other vegetation on roofs, gutters, decks, porches, stairways, etc.
- ✓ **Dead Vegetation Under a Building.** Remove all dead and dying trees, branches, shrubs or other vegetation adjacent to or overhanging structures.
- ✓ **Dead Vegetation & Grass.** Remove all dead and dying grass, plants, shrubs, trees, branches, leaves, weeds and needles and maintain annual grasses to a maximum of 4 inches in height.
- ✓ **Cover & Shrubs.** Remove or separate live flammable ground cover and shrubs so that groupings are limited to a 10-foot diameter and spaced 5 feet from any other groupings.
- ✓ **Vegetation below decks, etc.** Remove flammable vegetation and items that could catch fire which are adjacent to or below combustible decks, balconies, stairs, etc.
- ✓ **Wood piles.** Relocate exposed wood piles exceeding 55 cubic feet (approximately 2 feet deep by 5 feet wide and 5 feet high) outside of Zone 1 (30 feet from the structure).

Zone 2: Within 30-100 feet of all structures or to the property line

- ✓ **Cut Grass.** Cut annual grasses, weeds, and forbs to a maximum of 4 inches in height.
- ✓ **Trees & shrubs.** Maintain trees, large shrubs and hedges exceeding 6 feet in height so limbs are not within 5 feet of the ground or 1/3 of its height (whichever is less).
- ✓ **Wood piles.** All exposed woodpiles must have a minimum of 10 feet clearance, down to bare mineral soil, in all directions.
- ✓ **Cover & Shrubs.** Remove or separate live flammable ground cover and shrubs so that groupings are limited to a 10-foot diameter and spaced 5 feet from any other groupings.
- ✓ **Surface & aerial fuels.** Dead and dying woody surface fuels and aerial fuels shall be removed. Loose surface litter, normally consisting of fallen leaves or needles, twigs, bark, cones, and small branches, shall be permitted to a maximum depth of 3 inches.

Other Requirements

- ✓ **Logs/stumps.** Logs or stumps embedded in the soil must be removed or isolated from other vegetation.
- ✓ **Outbuilding/LPG.** Outbuildings and Liquid Propane Gas (LPG) storage tanks shall have 10 feet of clearance to bare mineral soil and no flammable vegetation for an additional 10 feet around their exterior, pursuant to 14 CCR § 1299.03(c)(1).
- ✓ **Address Numbers.** Address numbers shall be mounted on the structure, or an adjacent monument in contrasting colors (4-inch minimum size) and be readable from the street or access road.
- ✓ **Chimney screens.** Equip chimney or stovepipe openings with a metal screen having openings between 3/8 inches and 1/2 inches.
- ✓ **Hydrant.** Clear vegetation and obstruction within 3 feet of any fire hydrant.



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